

Notes from the Churchyard liaison Committee 16th June 2018

Tom Burnham, Margaret Ashby and Val Wallis.

A request for a memorial bench to be placed in All Saints' Churchyard was discussed for a second time. The committee's recommendation first time was that other locations in the village were sort. This had not been done. The feeling was still that the Churchyard was not the right location for a memorial bench of this design. All the current benches in the churchyard are wooden and it was considered that consistency was important. A metal seat such as the one proposed would require greater maintenance and would lend itself more open to vandalism. The Churchyard liaison Committee (CYLC) recommends that other more suitable sites be looked for.

The forms required for applications for memorial seat in the churchyard have been updated.

Should the PCC decide to proceed with the memorial bench a possible location was agreed.

The area used for Burial of Ashes at present is almost full. Plans shown for a new area in the new area of the churchyard were approved

The ash trees on the north side of the churchyard had had been dead wooded and had an Arial inspection which indicated some more work may be needed. Maidstone Borough Council tree man has been contacted for advice.

It was agreed that an Arial inspection of other trees in the churchyard should be undertaken by Forestry First at a cost of 300.+ VAT

Every two years a health and safety check on all the headstones in the churchyard must be carried out. This has been done under the guidelines set by the Ministry of Justice. This task has been completed and a report was tabled. The recommendations from the report were agreed.

It was agreed that the signs for Commonwealth graves should go at the churchyard entrance.

It was felt that the churchyard was very well maintained giving the right balance between a well looked after space and a village churchyard with good areas of wild flowers.